last three years are given in the Statement [Refer to the Statement appended to the answer to Unstarred Question No. 2366(a)]

(b) No, Sir.

(c) NAFED has exported FCI wheat/rice itself and through its recognized associates under the purview of FCI guidelines/terms and conditions only.

Subsidy to agricultural products in foreign countries

†2374. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':
SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the agricultural products are being made cheaper in US and in the western countries by providing subsidy, directly and indirectly to the farmers;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that the farmers of India are being adversely affected due to the globalisation;

(c) if so, Government's reaction thereto; and

(d) the details of decision taken by Government to provide subsidy to the farmers in the country or to raise the amount thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) The continuing high level of domestic support and export subsidies in many developed countries denies meaningful market access to the developing countries; and depresses the international prices. In view of this in the negotiations on WTO Agreement on Agriculture (AoA), India has sought *inter-alia*, substantial reduction in all forms of domestic support by the developed countries and elimination of export subsidies except export subsidies provided by all developing countries to reduce their high costs of marketing, including handling, upgrading and other processing costs; and costs of transport and freight, under Article 9.1(d) and (e) of the AoA which should remain without reduction commitments. In Doha Declaration also, Ministers

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

have agreed to negotiations aimed at substantial improvement in market access; reduction of, with a view to phasing out all forms of export subsidies and substantial reduction in trade-distorting domestic support. There has been no major change in the composition of import and export basket of the country.

(d) The Government is providing subsidies for agriculture products including subsidies for research, pest and disease control, marketing and promotion services, infrastructure services. Assistance to farmers is also being provided through various programmes undertaken by the Government.

Export of horticulture products

†2375. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to encourage the export of horticulture products;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what steps have been taken by Government to encourage the production and export of horticulture products, State-wise and the names of these products?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) For encouraging export of horticultural products, the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) under the Ministry of Commerce is providing financial assistance to individuals/exporters for various activities like setting up Infrastructure Facilities, Packaging Development, Human Resource Development, Export Promotion, Market Development and Quality Control. Besides, APEDA with the involvement of the State Government have initiated several programmes under Agri Export Zones (AEZ) for giving focused attention on area based programme for export promotion of programme for export promotion of horticultural products.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.